

REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated June 16, 2008. Claims 30, 32-34, and 36-41 are presented for examination, of which Claims 30 and 34 are in independent form. Claims 30 and 34 have been amended to define Applicants' invention still more clearly, and Claims 31 and 35 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

Claims 30, 34, and 38-41 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the article entitled "Olympus Digital Vision D-320L D-220L Digital Camera Instructions" (hereinafter *Olympus*); Claims 31, 32, 35, and 36 were rejected over *Olympus* in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,442,349 (*Saegusa*); and Claims 33 and 37 were rejected as being unpatentable over *Olympus*, *Saegusa*, and further in view of the article entitled "IEEE 1394: A Ubiquitous Bus" (hereinafter *IEEE 1394*). Applicants submit that independent Claims 30 and 34, together with the claims dependent therefrom, are patentably distinct from the cited prior art for at least the following reasons.

Claim 30 is directed to a method of controlling a data communication apparatus. The method includes a step of controlling the data communication apparatus to send image data selected by a user to a printer via a serial bus, the image data being sent from the data communication apparatus in response to entering a send instruction into the data communication apparatus. The method also includes a step of controlling the data communication apparatus to inhibit, invalidate, or ignore a predetermined user instruction while the image data is being sent to the printer and while the image data is being printed by the printer. In addition, the method includes a step of controlling the data communication apparatus to notify a user with a warning message in response to entering the predetermined user instruction into the data communication

apparatus, while the image data is being sent to the printer and while the image data is being printed by the printer. Further, the method includes a step of controlling the data communication apparatus to stop inhibiting, invalidating or ignoring the predetermined user instruction in response to disconnecting the data communication apparatus from the serial bus, while the image data is being sent to the printer and while the image data is being printed by the printer.

Among other notable features of Claim 30 is that the data communication apparatus is controlled to notify a user with a warning message in response to entering the predetermined user instruction into the data communication apparatus, while the image data is being sent to the printer and while the image data is being printed by the printer.

Olympus relates to the user operation manual for the *Olympus* model D-320L and D-220L digital cameras. Apparently, these camera models may be used in conjunction with a printing device to print images from the camera. However, even if *Olympus* is taken as teaching all that it has been cited for, nothing has been found in *Olympus* that is believed to teach or suggest any step of controlling a data communication apparatus “to notify a user with a warning message in response to entering the predetermined user instruction into the data communication apparatus, while the image data is being sent to the printer and while the image data is being printed by the printer”, as recited in Claim 30.

Accordingly, Claim 30 is believed to be patentable over *Olympus*, and Applicants respectfully request that the rejection thereof be withdrawn.

Independent Claim 34 is an apparatus claim corresponding to method Claim 30, and is believed to be patentable for at least the same reasons as discussed above in connection with Claim 30.

The other claims in this application, are each dependent from Claim 30 or 34 and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York Office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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